Holland & Hart



Jessica Schmidt

Partner

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Jessica strategically defends the interests of clients in commercial and energy related litigation.

Jessica represents oil and gas companies, renewable energy companies, data centers, and infrastructure developers, and companies in general commercial litigation. She has worked on a wide array of complex and challenging cases including commercial contract interpretation and enforcement issues, joint operating issues of first impression, lease and right of way issues, supply chain and force majeure disputes, pipeline disputes, wrongful death/personal injury and related tort actions, and royalty disputes. Jessica is also a member of Holland & Hart's workplace safety and emergency response team, specializing in defending regulatory enforcement matters initiated by OSHA and resultant litigation. She has assisted clients with internal investigations and defended civil and criminal litigation.

Prior to joining Holland & Hart, Jessica was a trial lawyer with Ridley McGreevy & Winocur, worked for several years as a Deputy State Public Defender in Arapahoe County, and clerked for former Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Bender. She has tried over 25 jury trials and argued before the Colorado Court of Appeals and the Colorado Supreme Court.

Jessica is a critical member of the natural resources litigation team and frequently works with Robert Ayers, Sean Hanlon, and Andy Lillie.

EXPERIENCE

Energy and Natural Resources Litigation

- Joint Operating Disputes
- Oil and Gas Royalties
- Pipeline Disputes
- Supply Chain and Force Majeure Disputes
- Appeals

General Commercial Litigation

- Commercial Contract Disputes
- Personal Injury
- Wrongful Death

PRACTICES

Environmental Litigation
Business Litigation

INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources
Oil and Gas
Conventional Power
Oil and Gas Litigation
Renewable Energy and Storage
Data Centers

EDUCATION

University of Colorado Law School, J.D., 2006
Order of the Coif
University of Colorado Law Review, Articles Editor and member
William O. DeSouchet Trial Advocacy Award

University of Notre Dame, B.A., 2003
summa cum laude
Phi Beta Kappa

BAR ADMISSIONS

Colorado
North Dakota

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota
U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
U.S. Supreme Court
MHA Nation Tribal Court

- Appeals

CLIENT RESULTS

Representative Opinions

- *Riggs v. Jonah Energy LLC*, 19CA1464 (Colo. App., Jan. 14, 2021)
- *Paradigm Energy Partners, LLC v. Fox*, Numbers 16-3655 and 16-4384 (August 10, 2017)

PUBLICATIONS

"Eighth Circuit Affirms Producer's Royalty Calculations Under North Dakota Law," *Holland & Hart News Update*, 08/09/2022

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Women in Trial," *National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) Faculty Member*, September 20-22, 2023

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Legal Regulation Committee Member, 2023-present
- Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce, Board Member, 2022-2024
- Bayaud Enterprises
    - Governance Committee Member, 2021-2022
    - Board Member, 2019-2022
- Colorado General Counsel Mentoring Program, Class of 2020
- Institute for Energy Law Young Energy Professionals' Rockies General Counsel Forum, Co-Chair, 2019
- Institute for Energy Law Leadership Class, Participant, 2018-2019
- Board of Continuing Legal Education of Colorado:
    - Executive Committee, 2017-2018
    - Member, 2015-2018
- Minoru Yasui American Inn of Court:
    - Program Co-Chair, 2015-2017
    - Member, 2010-2021
- Denver Bar Association, Representative to the Colorado Bar Association Board of Governors, 2013-2017
- Colorado Bar Association, Fellow
    - Incoming Bar President Nominating Committee, Member, 2015
- Colorado Bar Association Leadership Training:
    - Program's Committee Member, 2012
    - Training Class Participant, 2011
- Colorado Women's Bar Association
- LGBT Bar Association